

OUTDOOR JOURNEY FOR GIRLS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **When is my registration due/What is the deadline to send it in?**

It is recommended that registrations are turned in as soon as possible. Registrations are accepted “first come, first serve”. While there is no deadline for registrations, we will stop taking registrations once the camps are full.

- **What does the Outdoor Journey registration fee include?**

The registration fee includes: all meals, lodging, and use of equipment.

- **Are scholarships available?**

Many Iowa Pheasant Forever (PF) chapters sponsor girls to attend. Contact your local PF Chapter (see the next question for details); if they do not have any scholarships available, contact Pheasants Forever OJ Representatives: Central Iowa- Jared Wiklund at jwiklund@pheasantsforever.org or Brice Morris bmorris@pheasantsforever.org for possible funding from other chapters.

- **How do I contact a PF chapter?**

By going to <http://www.iowapf.net> you can find contact information for your local chapter and learn more about Pheasants Forever (PF). If you're not familiar with your local PF Chapter or need more information about Iowa Pheasants Forever contact Jared or Brice with the above contact information.

- **When is the best time to contact a PF chapter?**

As soon as possible, as any available scholarships are typically “first come, first served”.

- **How will I know if a PF chapter sponsored me?**

You will need to confirm your sponsorship with your given PF sponsoring chapter. If you are sponsored, your PF chapter will send in both the Participant and the Sponsorship forms together.

- **What should I bring?**

A complete list is provided as part of the confirmation packet after registration is made. The list includes basic necessities such as personal items, a small daypack, water bottle, and sunscreen. All bedding and towels will be provided at the Springbrook Camp, However, bedding and towels will NOT be provided at the Hickory Hills Camp.

- **Can I bring my cell phone?**

Yes, but phones must be “off” when in sessions and are only to be used to contact family if necessary.

○ **Can I bring my own bow, rifle, fishing pole, etc.?** No. All non-personal equipment such as these items will be provided for each participant's use. Do not bring any of these items.

○ **I'd like to volunteer. What can I do?**

If you are at least 18 years of age you can be a Mentor/chaperone! Please see <http://www.iowadnr.com/oj/chaperone.html> if you are interested in mentoring/chaperoning.

○ **Can I mentor/ chaperone my daughter?**

Yes. Please see <http://www.iowadnr.com/oj/chaperone.html> for details. Mothers and daughters can lodge in the same cabin, but will be assigned to different day groups so each has a unique, fun new experience.

○ **If I mentor/ chaperone do I have to stay for 3 days?**

Yes.

○ **Do I need any outdoor experience to be a mentor/ chaperone?**

No! Mentors/ Chaperones are encouraged to learn and participate along with the girls.

○ **Who teaches at Outdoor Journey?**

OJ instructors are DNR conservation officers, biologists and other personnel, hunter education instructors, county conservation board naturalists and representatives from other agencies such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service and Iowa State University. We also have volunteer mentor/ chaperones and volunteers that go through a screening process.

○ **I love the idea of your program. Are there any programs out there for boys and women?**

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources also offers the Hunting and Conservation Camp (HACC) which expands boys' ages 12-15 opportunities in a variety of outdoor skills, Hunter Education Certification **is** included in that program. For more information go to <http://www.iowadnr.gov/hacc/index.html>.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources also offers Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) which is aimed primarily at women ages 18 years and older to learn basic outdoor skills in a supportive environment. For more information go to <http://www.iowadnr.gov/bow/info.html>.

○ **I have other questions about Outdoor Journey. Who can I contact?**

If we haven't addressed your questions or concerns on the website, please feel free to contact OJ Coordinator Donise Petersen at outdoorjourney@dnr.iowa.gov or 515-205-8709.